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Working for Comb Honey—Finishing the Season

BY G. M. DOOLITTLE.

We will suppose that by the time this reaches the readers of the American Bee Journal, swarming is all done with and we are ready to look after the sections. If we had sections of empty comb to put in the center of our surplus arrangement, as I have advised so often in the bee-papers, we will only have to look after these the first time over the apiary, for if any are finished it will be these, for bees can fill empty comb and seal it over much sooner than they can build comb or draw out foundation.

The first thing to be done is to get the smoker, having it lighted and ready for use, together with a spring wheelbarrow. On the wheelbarrow is placed some wide frames of sections with starters to take the place of the full ones as they come off. Having arrived at a hive, take off the cover and gently pry the wide frames apart with a stout knife, when a little smoke is blown down through the crack between them, so as to drive the bees away that we may see if any are completed, which is told by the cells being sealed over. Unless all in one wide frame are finished I do not attempt to take any, but when they are I remove such wide frame, shaking the bees off, which is readily done at this time, except a few behind the separator, as each bee is filled with honey so it is easily rolled off by the usual method of shaking brood-combs, which I have several times described.

The wide frame of honey is now placed on the wheelbarrow and a wide frame of empty sections put in its place on the hive. If more than one wide frame of sections are finished they are taken off also, and others put in their places, the same as was the first. Proceed to the next hive, working the same as at the first, and so on until you have been over the whole apiary.

Of course, it would be less work to leave the honey all on until the close of the season, and then take all off together, but if we do this, much of this first finished will get travel-stained and not sell for so fancy a price as it will if taken off when snow-white.

If the honey-yield keeps good, I go over the apiary in the same way a week later, and so on until the honey season draws near its close, when what remains on the hives is al-

lowed to stay as long as there is prospect of the bees completing any more sections, after which the whole is taken off by means of the bee-escape board, so often spoken of in our bee-papers.

As fast as taken off, the honey is stored in a dry, airy room, and the warmer this room can be the better, for in such a dry, warm, airy room the honey in the sections keeps growing thicker and thicker, and better and better, as long as it remains, bringing it to a condition where it will not so quickly gather moisture or "sweat," if the consumer or dealer does not happen to store it in a favorable place when it comes into his hands. This item of properly curing honey is of more importance than the average bee-keeper places upon it, judging from the numerous letters which I receive every fall, asking "What ails my honey? It is taking on a watery appearance, and the honey in the unsealed cells is standing out in drops. What can I do for it?" Nothing ails the honey, only that the apiarist has stored it in a damp, cool place so that it has taken on moisture till the expansion has become so great that it has touched the sealing to the cells, giving it the watery appearance; and if left in such a place long the cappings will burst, the honey run out, sour, and become so deteriorated as to be unfit for use. It seems too bad to have a nice crop of honey, which has been worked for so hard to obtain, spoil, or become second class, from lack of knowledge regarding how it should be cared for when off the hives.

Being kept in a warm, dry room, as all honey should be, the next difficulty which is liable to appear, comes in the shape of the larvæ of the wax-moth, for warmth is what they revel in. How the eggs from the moth come on our comb honey is a mystery, as the bees guard the hive with vigilance against these moth enemies; but certain it is, that they are on the combs, or else there would be no larvæ to commit depredations. All sections fully sealed and snow-white should be placed by themselves, as these are rarely troubled, but those having pollen in them, or which are discolored near the bottom by the bees working bits of old comb from the hive below into that in the sections, should be carefully watched, and if the works of the larvæ are seen upon them, they should be stored in hives, tiered up or in a tight box or room, and sulphured, as has been given so many times in our bee papers and books.

The honey being properly cured, it should now be crated and gotten ready for market. Some are almost as careless about this part as they are about curing the honey, tumbling the sections into a wagon and hauling to market in a manner which shows they are not posted in their business, this giving the groceryman the clue that he can buy the honey at his own price, thus giving the producer poor returns for his labor, and injuring the market for others who know how honey should be handled.

The honey should be properly graded and put up into

tasty crates, even though the producer have only 50 pounds as his production. Many rules for grading have been given, but as far as I know each is at liberty to adopt what he thinks best. I make three grades which I call, XXX, XX, and X. In the first I place only white honey, stored in white combs and thoroughly sealed. In the second, white honey in combs that are somewhat travel-stained, and those having a few unsealed cells next the wood and near the bottom. In the third I put all honey which I consider salable, the same being off color, one-sixth sealed, or badly travel-stained, together with fall honey if I have such, which is not often.

Having all parts done to the best of my ability, I generally ship on commission all that I do not sell at home, which is very little, as I live in a rural district, with enough small bee-keepers about me to supply all the wants of their neighbors and mine.

Borodino, N. Y.



A Swarm-Hiving Experience—Bee-Stings.

BY EDWIN BEVINS.

To-day (June 24) I have the most grotesque-looking face in America. Yesterday I had a swarm of bees come out and alight on a branch of that same oak-tree where the swarm lit last year, that gave me so much trouble. There was a big wood-pile under the tree again this year, and a big box was placed on top of the wood-pile and a hive placed on top of the box. Then an assistant, robed in scare-crow attire, climbed into the tree to saw off the branch. When he got up there, he said he wanted some help.

I went up with hat and veil on to assist him. I found that another branch of a large limb a little higher than the one the bees were clustered on was broken in a way to let some of the twigs fall onto the top of the cluster. Some of the bees were clustered on these twigs. My veil and hat had got torn from my head while climbing up the tree. While my assistant held the branch having most of the bees, I endeavored to cut some of the twigs of the other branch with my jack-knife. Then the bees made a rush for my bare face, and the bare spot on the top of my head. I closed the knife and thrust it into my pocket, and then scrambled down with as much speed as possible to one of the lower limbs of the tree. Suspending myself by the arms from this, I dropped to the ground. My assistant shook what bees he could in front of the hive, but they soon went back to the tree.

After ridding myself of my pets, I put on some ku-kluk fixings, and resolved that I would hive that swarm. I placed the hive on the ground at the foot of the wood-pile, and then got a bushel basket and attached it to the end of a pole by means of a piece of fence-wire. Then I climbed on top of the wood-pile and thrust the basket close up under the cluster. My assistant hit the branch a rap with a pole, above the cluster, and the bees were dumped in front of the hive. Half of them went back to the branch, and the dumping process was repeated. Then the bees staid hived, except a few that seemed to think it their duty to chase everybody in sight the rest of the day.

About 40 stings was the number administered, where, it is charitable to suppose, the bees thought they would do the most good. I scraped out stingers most of the afternoon yesterday, and occasionally find one to-day. Strange to say, all these stings have caused me no pain. The feeling produced by them is rather comfortable than otherwise. I have been stung before in places where I had been feeling rheumatic pains, and the pains did not return. It is not unlikely that formic acid may be a specific for some kinds of rheumatism. Some persons may be so fastidious as to object to its application in the rough-and-tumble way, and the wholesale quantity that it was applied to me yesterday.

The fact that the stings I got gave me no pain, and that

they may prove beneficial to my health, will save the next advocate of natural swarming I meet from getting licked.

I think, however, that I will buy a Manum swarm-catcher before the bees begin to swarm next year.

Leon, Iowa.



Dealing with Foul Brood—Experience.

BY HON. R. L. TAYLOR,

Superintendent of the Michigan Experiment Apiary.

It is coming to be more and more important, apparently, that a thorough knowledge of the disease called foul brood, and of the steps necessary to exterminate it, should be disseminated among those who keep bees, for it seems to have a foothold in many widely separated portions of the State, and it must always be terribly destructive when it is not dealt with intelligently; so a record of my experience with it during the past year will have its value.

For the purpose of study and experimentation I have aimed, latterly, to keep a colony or two having the disease, but last summer the disease broke out afresh, making the number of diseased colonies uncomfortably large; there being now eleven colonies which underwent treatment, not to speak of others that first or last were united with one or another of these. The cause of this marked reappearance, as I think, was owing to the fact that on account of the dearth of nectar during June and July, the bees encroached on their oldest stores, even to their almost entire consumption, more or less of which had been in their hives for years, and contained, in a quiescent state, the germs of the disease.

These colonies were treated according to the plan described in my report of two years ago, by driving or shaking the bees into a clean hive furnished with foundation. The majority of the colonies were so treated at the beginning of honey gathering from fall flowers, the rest two or three weeks later, when the honey-flow was nearly over. The decided advantage of treating diseased colonies when there is a considerable flow of nectar was clearly seen by an inspection of these two lots of bees after the treatment. Of the first lot every colony went to work at once contentedly, and with a will, and at the close of the season were fair colonies with natural stores for winter. Of those treated later, all were discontented, and all, or nearly all, attempted to swarm out, some of them frequently. The consequence was that all were weak even after some had been united.

The reason that all were not treated at the earlier date was that it was deemed desirable to save some of the brood taken from the first lot by giving it to others, to be cared for, till it should hatch. The event showed that it would have been more profitable to have sacrificed all the brood, and had the treatment performed at the opening of the honey-flow.

These colonies have been kept distinct from the other colonies of the apiary and carefully watched for evidence for or against the effectiveness of the plan of treatment used. The result, so far, is that all are entirely free of the disease at this writing (May 25, 1896) unless one be excepted, in which were found two cells of dead brood which bore some resemblance to that affected with the disease, and which it is barely possible may yet prove to be an incipient stage of foul brood, but, should this be the case, so much time has elapsed since the treatment it is extremely improbable that it had its source in the case of the disease with which the colony was afflicted before treatment. For a full description of the disease and the above method of cure, I must refer to my report for the year ending May 31, 1894.

Other methods of cure have been, or are still, recommended. The fasting cure, so-called from its requirement that the bees be shut up in a box till the honey carried with them is consumed, and individual bees begin to drop from

hunger, I experimented with extensively at one time and found that while it has no advantage in any particular over the method I now recommend, it is subject to several weighty objections.

The method of cure by the administration of drugs, once recommended by high authority, is not practical, even if it ever really effected a cure, and yet drugs have a place in the management of the disease. To prevent the spread of the infection when opening the hives and handling the combs of colonies having the disease, Benton recommends a solution of $\frac{3}{8}$ ounce of corrosive sublimate in one gallon of water, to be used to wash thoroughly the hands and all tools used about the hive before opening another hive. If for any reason the treatment of a colony must be delayed, I have found a preparation of $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce of salicylic acid dissolved in one ounce of alcohol and well mixed in one pint of water, and this added to rather thin syrup or honey for feeding at the rate of one pint to four quarts, and then given freely to the colony, has a surprising effect upon the disease and the bees in thoroughly checking—not curing—the former and increasing the prosperity of the latter. One part of carbolic acid or phenol to about 600 parts of such food, syrup or honey is recommended for the same purpose. It is reasonable to suppose that if this sort of feeding prevents the increase of the disease within the hive, as it certainly does, it would certainly prevent its spread to other colonies—a very desirable thing.

It is of the highest importance that every one who keeps bees should become thoroughly acquainted with the characteristics of the disease under consideration in so far as that acquaintance may be had from the description of those who have had experience with it, that he may recognize it at once if it should invade his domain. Prompt efforts on its first appearance would be by far the most effective. Especially should every colony lacking in activity or any other sign of waning prosperity be carefully examined. On the first appearance of the scourge, before the honey containing the spores is scattered through the apiary by robbing or careless handling, it should be stamped out by the most thorough measures. This will be found the cheapest course. Burning utterly every affected colony at this stage, hive, combs and bees, letting no bee escape, will in the end be more profitable than a good crop of honey with traces of the disease retained. In connection the antiseptic food preparation hereinbefore described should be administered freely to every colony and every attention given to the destruction of every particle of the virus. If by ignorance, robbing, or carelessness, many colonies have become affected, then curative measures would probably be preferable, but no less care in mastering directions, and intelligence and energy in applying them, should be exercised than though there were a prospect of the immediate eradication of the disease by more drastic measures.—Review.

Lapeer, Mich.

[Remember that Dr. Howard's book on foul brood we mail for 25 cents, or it will be sent with the American Bee Journal one year—both together for \$1.10. Send all orders to the Bee Journal office.—Ed.]



A Prolific Colony of Bees.

BY WM. S. BARCLAY.

If it interests our brother bee-keepers as much to read of a prosperous colony of bees as it does myself, I shall not have written its description in vain.

On May 28, 1895, I hived a very large natural swarm of bees, giving it the stand of the parent colony. On June 27 (just one day less than a month after hiving it) it became so populous that from fear of losing one of my best queens if I permitted the swarm to fly, I took from it a large artificial swarm with the old queen. The product of this swarm may

be recorded as follows: A good artificial swarm, 20 pounds of comb honey, 47 pounds and 11 ounces of extracted honey, 2 combs of sealed brood, and 3 sealed queen-cells, besides 3 or 4 combs of young bees shaken into two weak colonies to strengthen them; this for one living in a location which is not a good one for honey-production, is, I think, a pretty good one; but in fairness I must admit that last season produced a greater honey-yield than usual.

The queen of this colony is from my favorite stock, being as near as I am able to describe about $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ Syrian, being crossed with my dark or leather-colored Italians, and although not so docile and easily handled, they are by far the most prolific, hardy, longest-lived, and best honey-producers I have had after 35 years' careful breeding and cross-breeding. I have now a bee which comes almost up to my expectations, let it be "Apis Americana" or whatever else it may be termed, and I only regret that it will be difficult for me to procure fresh Syrian blood to further advance this grade of bee.

I had forgotten to state that this variety is much larger and stronger than any other I have ever met.

After an experience of over 40 years, and with all varieties of bees except the Cyprian and Egyptian (and these I do not want), I have no recollection of any colony equal to the one described, if I may except an Italian colony I owned about 25 years ago, when my honey resources were much better than now, and from which I obtained 113 $\frac{1}{4}$ pounds of extracted honey and a large artificial swarm; these were the darker Italians, and although much more gentle and excellent honey-gatherers, they were not nearly so hardy or long-lived as my present stock. I have 4 or 5 queens from this queen almost the equal, and one, I think, superior to the old one.

I should be glad to learn from whom I could renew the Syrian blood in my apiary.

Beaver, Pa.



Fifteen Years' Experience in Bee-Keeping.

BY MRS. SALLIE E. SHERMAN.

(Continued from page 435.)

I guess I was one of the first to get and use the Alley drone-trap and queen-cage combined. At any rate, I smothered and killed two colonies of bees before they were beveled or cut away at the edge. You see, they were just left square at the edge next to the hive, so that it completely closed the entrance, and as the weather was intensely hot, they became excited, which increased rather than diminished the heat. When I looked into the hives late in the evening they were a mass of dead or dying bees. I wrote to Mr. Alley about it, and told him what I thought the trouble was. He very generously sent me several of his fine queens to replace those that I had lost from the defective traps, and those that I got of him afterwards were all right, and with me a wonderful success, as it entirely stopped the climbing and mutilating of my nice shade-trees.

I think about as pretty a sight as I ever saw during my 15 years of bee-keeping experience, and during a long, lingering spell of slow fever that my son had during swarming time, was a beautiful, very large swarm of bees that came out and settled on the very topmost limbs of an elm tree in the yard. As soon as I heard them (the hive was near the house) I ran out and put a trap to the entrance so as to cage the queen. I then moved the old hive and put a new one in its place; then placed the trap containing the queen at the entrance of the newly-prepared hive. By the time this was done, the golden beauties came pouring back in a stream from their high perch. It was indeed a sight worth seeing. In 15 minutes from the time I left my sick child, I was back to him again with my bees hived and everything all right. I would just as soon think of going back to the little black bee and

box-hive, as to keep bees without the queen trap or cage. I think that the Italian bee is as far superior to the little blacks as a Berkshire hog is to a razor-back; although I am aware that there are some who prefer the razor-backs and blacks.

Another excellent and useful implement was "the bee-keepers' staff." I had two made according to the directions in the American Bee Journal—one with a pole 12 feet long and the other 16. Sometimes a queen would get out with the swarm, and they would cluster or settle so I could reach them with the short staff, and sometimes I would have to use the long one. I remember on one occasion a swarm came out and left. I was very tired, so I thought I would not bother about them. A close neighbor saw them coming, so she ran out beating a pan, and sure enough they settled quite low. She called to me to come and get my bees; I told her she could have them. "No," said she, "come and get them yourself." I took my short staff, and in a few minutes had them all nicely clustered on it, and brought them home. Just as I was coming down the lane a gentleman, who was coming to the house, saw me with the bees on the staff, and so concluded he had business further up the street, and wouldn't come until he saw that I had them safely in their hive.

It seems to me that there must be an odor left on the tree where bees settle after swarming, from the fact that so many select the same place upon which to settle. In 1888, 37 swarms out of 49 that I had during the season, settled on a gum-elastic tree, at that time about 14 feet high. If it wasn't an odor that caused so many to select not only the same tree, but often the same limb, then I must plead ignorance of the cause.

I am fully satisfied that on one occasion, if not more, I had bees move eggs, not from one part of the hive to another, but from one hive to another, from which they reared four as nice Italian queens as I ever saw. It was this way:

I had made a new colony by division, putting in sealed brood with adhering bees in all the frames except one, in which was fresh-laid eggs from which to rear a queen, as I at that time did not happen to have either a queen or queen-cell. At the proper time I looked in and found a nice lot of ripe cells ready to transfer to other hives, which I proceeded to do, of course leaving one. I did not open the hive again for two weeks, and when I did so, I failed to find either the queen or any eggs. I then closed it, as it was late in the evening, intending to give them a queen the next morning, or eggs from which to rear one; but on the morrow it was raining, and unfavorable weather for several days, so that it was 10 days before I again looked in, then intending to give them a queen; imagine my surprise, upon opening the hive, to find four large, fine queen-cells nearly ready to cap, with not another egg or larvæ in the hive. Now, the question is, Where did those eggs come from? The nearest hive to this one was 12 feet away, and in it were hybrids, and not pure Italians; so they must have been brought from a colony still farther off, as it does not seem at all reasonable that a queen would have entered this queenless hive and laid only four eggs, and then have left. I have had other cases that I had good reason to believe that the bees moved the eggs, but this one instance is enough to go into the details about.

I used to feel anxious to see a laying worker depositing her eggs, but I never had that pleasure but once, although I used to be considerably annoyed by this great nuisance.

The occasion above referred to was inside of one hour after I had removed the queen from my observatory hive. I was very much astonished at this, for I had always thought that it never occurred until the bees were hopelessly queenless. She went at her work, it seemed to me, rather hurriedly, depositing from three to seven and eight eggs in each cell without any apparent system in her work.

As to clipping queens' wings, I must acknowledge that I

have but a limited experience, never having clipped more than about a half dozen, all of which were either killed outright, or balled and superseded in a few weeks. This satisfied me that I wanted no more such mutilation. Thus ended my clipping experience.

I failed ever to find a wooden vessel that held honey to my satisfaction. I had two large honey-extractors, one a two and the other a four frame. I sometimes used one in extracting and sometimes the other. The one I kept in my honey-room I used as a receptacle into which I poured the honey after emptying it out of the one in the bee-tent, in which I had extracted it. I then drew it off into five-gallon square kerosene or gasoline cans, two cans in a case. There, there, don't hold up your hands in holy horror, for they were clean, and never so much as a scent about either the cans or cases. How did I clean them? Well, don't be in such a hurry; just give me a little time, and I will tell you all about it:

You see I never had to pay more than 15 cents a piece, and have bought hundreds of them at 5 cents each. I melted the little piece off, always saving the screw-cap, to be replaced after the can had been thoroughly cleaned and filled with honey, and a nice cork put in the opening. After thus opening the cans, I usually turned them over to Aunt Rachel (a good old darky), who cleaned them with concentrated lye and boiling water, after which I rinsed them thoroughly in clean hot water, drying them with a clean cloth put inside and tossed around so as to get them dry. I then put a little rag in which was tied a table-spoonful or two of parched ground coffee, and let them air for several days. They were then as nice and clean and free from any unpleasant odor as though they had just come from the tin-shop. I paid Aunt Rachel 5 cents each for cleaning them. Thus, you see, they cost me only 10 to 20 cents each when clean. I went to the tin-shop and found that I could not get them made for less than 50 cents each—a saving, you see, of from 30 to 40 cents for each can, which, considering the number I have used, would have amounted to a snug little sum.

The cases were cleaned, aired, and painted with one coat of paint, which added considerable to their appearance.

Bell County, Tex.

[To be continued.]



Those Questions Asked by Mr. Doolittle.

BY EMERSON T. ABBOTT.

On page 324, Mr. Doolittle has asked me a number of questions, the full answer to which would be very much out of place in this or any other journal of apiculture, but as the questions found their way into these columns, I presume I am expected to make some reply. I will do so briefly.

"Why do we have to *push* our interests?" Simply because this is an age of *push*, and nothing goes without *pushing*. I doubt if we are any the worse off for having to push. I have heard a good deal about the good old times when men did not have to push, but I am just enough of an optimist to think these times, taken as a whole, are just about as good as we read about, even though honey did bring 25 cents a pound. I very much doubt if Mr. Doolittle's "me and mine" enjoyed any more real comforts than they do now.

"Will Mr. A. tell us why times are close?" Well, I could tell why I think they are close, but that would open questions which should not be discussed in these columns, therefore I respectfully decline.

"Does he mean that I have no privilege to share his market for honey with him?" No, sir; you are a long way from my meaning. Society, through the enactments of legislators, has encroached so much on the rights of individuals that I am thoroughly convinced that the time has come when individuality should begin to assert itself. The world is every man's

market, and no man, nor set of men, has a right to shut him out of it. No, sir, Mr. D., I do not object to the coming of any one. The freer men are, the better; and being left free, not hampered by useless laws, if I cannot hold my own in competition with the world, if needs be, I am willing to go to the wall. And though I go down and sink into oblivion and eternal forgetfulness, I will not whine.

"Does he not know that bee-keepers are being robbed?" No, I do not know anything of the kind. It is a great deal easier to call men "robbers" than it is to correct the real ills that beset human life. One can sneer about so-called statesmen with much less trouble than he can be a statesman. There is entirely too much of this charging dishonest motives and methods upon men in high authority. God has not left the world to sin and vice, neither are all men corrupt who do not agree with you and me. It seems to me that it becomes men and women who profess to be followers of Him who went about doing good, to look for the bright side of life, and not be eternally holding up the bad, and crying "thief," "robbers," etc. What effect must such tossing about of words and phrases, attributing bad motives to our rulers and law makers, have on the rising generation? It seems to me it cannot be anything but bad.

I trust this cry "in plain language" to the "humble ones," and the great as well, from one who has been a "watchman on the towers of Zion," may have its proper effect, and that hereafter we may believe in real truth, and in the fullest sense that "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof."

St. Joseph, Mo.



Wintering on Langstroth Frames on Ends.

BY THOS. THURLOW.

On page 343, Mr. R. L. Taylor's report reminds me that I promised to let you know how my bees wintered on Langstroth frames standing on end, and I will now proceed to do so, as I have kept a memoranda from the time I put them into winter quarters until they were taken down in the spring.

Oct. 15, 1895, there being little brood in the hives, and that capped, and in the central frames, the manner of fixing a hive for winter was as follows:

Taking a hive off of its stand and setting it on the ground alongside, a floor is placed on the stand and then a body put in position; then a bridge $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, on the floor, inside the body at the entrance, then the inside case (which has an inch high entrance across one side at the bottom) is set on the floor close against the bridge, an equal distance from each side of body; the frames are then taken from the hive and carefully set in the case on end, seeing that the queen and all the brood goes along, until full.

(The frames rest on two strips $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch thick, with V's in the top edge, to keep the frames spaced rightly, and are high enough to keep the end of the top-bar $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from the floor, are fastened to the case, and run from front to back, so the frames are crosswise to the entrance, and the case is $\frac{1}{4}$ inch higher than the upper end of the top-bar. The upper end of the frames are spaced with a light strip of wood with notches cut in it, to slip onto the frames easily.)

Another body is then put on, and granulated cork filled in all around, flush with the top of the case; then two or three thicknesses of bagging, cut a little larger than the top of the inside case, are laid on top of the same; then an empty section-case is put on top of the bodies, and a cork cushion put in it; the cover comes last, and one hive is fixed for winter.

The bees remaining in the old hive are brushed down at the entrance, and the spare frames put away for spring.

All my colonies were so fixed, and each had about 15 pounds of honey; that was far from 40 pounds, as B. Taylor recommends in a late number of the American Bee Journal,

but it was enough and to spare, as I have not been able to get all the spare frames of honey left out in the fall back into the hives this spring, but have had to use frames of empty comb to give the queen room.

Last winter was a hard winter here, not much snow, but more than average cold and windy; after the first week in November the bees were not able to fly until Dec. 21, when they had a good flight, and cleaned out their dead, which were very few, and they flew a little until the 30th, after which the next time they got out was Jan. 30, 1896, when they cleaned house and "went to bed" again until Feb. 15, then it was quite warm, and I looked them over. In 12 out of the 14 hives the bees were at the top of the frames, which verifies what I said last year, that bees will get to the top of the frames in winter where it is the warmest, and leave capped honey below them; almost all of them had capped brood.

March was a hard month; the 28th was the next flight they had, then I looked for brood, but found very little; the bees looked bright and dry, the inside of the case perfectly dry, and not a sign of dysentery did I see all winter.

On Nov. 25, 1895, I weighed the hives very carefully, as I was curious to know just what they would lose in their new winter arrangement; on March 28 I weighed again, and this is their exact loss after four months of cold and windy winter:

| No. | Nov. 25. lbs. | March 28. lbs. | Loss. lbs. | No. | Nov. 25. lbs. | March 28. lbs. | Loss. lbs. |
|-----|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | 76 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 69 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 7 | 8. | 72 | 65 | 7 |
| 2. | 71 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 65 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 9. | 74 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 67 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| 3. | 69 | 62 | 7 | 10. | 74 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 67 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| 4. | 70 | 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 11. | 68 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 62 | 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| 5. | 69 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 62 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 12. | 71 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 64 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 7 |
| 6. | 66 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 59 | 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 13. | 75 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 68 | 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| 7. | 72 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 64 | 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 14. | 70 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 64 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ |

The average loss was 7 pounds, or only 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds between maximum and minimum loss, and wintered on dark fall honey.

Now, what do you think? Is it a good plan for wintering, or no better than many others? I have never seen anything in the American Bee Journal that I remember equal to it.

This has been a poor spring here for bees; they get very little honey from red maple, fruit-bloom or locust, and the nights have been so cool all along that brood-rearing has been kept back more than I ever knew before. White clover has now been in bloom two weeks, and there is no surplus honey yet; if the weather prophet does not give us hot weather pretty quick, the honey crop in this vicinity will be non est.

WIRING BROOD-FRAMES.—I don't know how other people string wire into brood-frames, but I invented this plan, and the wire does not kink and bother:

First, string a frame, then take the wire out, then take a strip of board about an inch square, a little longer than the wire (say 6 inches), drive two wire nails near each end, just the length of the wire apart, take a spool of wire, fasten the end to one nail and wind round from nail to nail as many lengths as you want, and fasten the end; then take any kind of a string and wrap around the stick and wire from nail to nail about a dozen turns, and fasten; then cut all the wires on the outside of the nails; tack the strip to the edge of a bench, wire up, clamp a brood-frame to the bench at the end of the strip, draw out a wire, and string into the frame as you draw out.

TIGHTENING SECTIONS IN CASES.—The book says to tighten sections in cases "put a wedge between the follower and side of the case." Don't do that. Use a piece of light band-iron about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch or $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide, and about 7 inches long; bend it in the middle flat ways, so it will be in the shape of two parentheses, convex sides outwards; two for each case, between the follower and side of the case; they allow the sections to swell or shrink as the weather pleases,

and still just keep tight together. They can be pulled out easily with a nail or anything that will hook into the loop.

ADULTERATION AND LOW PRICES.—If eternal vigilance is the price of liberty, so constant hammering at adulteration will eventually give laws stringent enough to stop the most of it, and that will give us a little better price for honey. Comb honey is a luxury, and the working class are a little short of money just now, hence less demand and lower price.

Lancaster, Pa., June 15.



Hunting Wild Bees—An Experience.

BY C. F. ZIGLER.

I have been hunting wild bees since I was a boy 12 years old, and will tell somewhat of my experience last year.

Myself and a friend located and cut 16 wild bee-trees last fall. I use a box with a sliding lid to keep the bees in while carrying them from one point to another. I then find bees working on flowers, or bloom, of some kind (sumac and buckwheat being my favorites). I have a bottle of extracted honey, also another small bottle about one-half full of water, which I fill with honey, and shake well, with just a scent of oil of anise. I then take a mouthful of this mixture and blow it over a few bunches of flowers, that I see the bees are working the most on, then I sit down and watch the bees working till I have a direct course, or line, which won't take long if done in the way above mentioned.

After watching them carefully, and having obtained a straight line, I cut off these few bunches of flowers and carry them to some point where I can hide, or destroy them from the notice of the bees; and in a few minutes I am ready to start after the line, for as soon as the bees can find no more of this mixture on the flowers, they will go into the box; so in this way one will have no trouble at all to get the bees to work in the box from the start, for all experienced bee-hunters know that it is a very hard matter at times to get bees off of flowers and get them to work in a box on comb containing pure honey, or sugar syrup, as the strange smell of the combs, etc., make the bees very shy, but experience has taught me that to take pure honey and make it half water it comes nearer being the same as the bees are gathering from the flowers, and they will load much quicker than from pure honey, and it is not nearly so sticky—they never get daubed as much as they do from pure honey or sugar syrup.

Now, all you have to do is to follow up this line until you find where the colony is; but sometimes this becomes a very trying piece of business, and gets very interesting before one gets through with it, as it did in one case with me last summer, which I wish to relate:

It was a beautiful morning, July 24, that myself and friend started out to see if we could locate a colony of wild bees. We went $3\frac{1}{2}$ or 4 miles away to some old fields, and found bees working on sumac blossom; it didn't take long to start the bees, and get a straight line, which, without a doubt, would prove to be a colony of wild bees. We had a mountain to cross, and therefore we tried to get as many bees as possible before starting, as it generally is a pretty hard matter to get bees to come down as you go up a mountain, but in this case it didn't prove very hard, and we followed them until sundown, taking them over two miles from where we started them the first day.

The next morning we started early, taking everything we needed to cut a bee-tree, and hive a colony of bees with, for we expected to find it in a short time, for we thought we were close to the colony when we left off the evening before.

But to our surprise we took it over two miles further—in all over four miles from where we started it; but we failed to find it until 6 o'clock that evening, and after looking at all

the trees for a circle of three-fourths of a mile around, and even looking in the rocks and at the old logs, I found the colony hanging on a limb in the top of a large tree, and if it had not been for the noise of the bees, we would not have found them that day.

We then came to the conclusion that some one had found the colony before, and not caring for anything but the honey, they had left the swarm in the woods, and it had settled on this tree; but after looking closely we were still more surprised to see the beautiful white comb they had built, shining through the bees. We then cut the tree down, and secured between 30 and 35 pounds of fine honey, being gathered chiefly from wild raspberry, and it having built comb 2 feet long and from 10 to 12 inches deep; I hived the swarm, brought it home and transferred it to a hive filled with comb, and so far have it living yet.

Hunting wild bees is a trade in itself, and it matters not how much knowledge one has of bees, if he never hunted them any to get the theory or idea, I am sorry to say, he will never make much headway at the business.

I find great sport and enjoyment in looking through the woods in the summer and fall, in hunting for wild bees, and I am never so happy as when working with these busy little creatures.

Waterside, Pa.



CONDUCTED BY

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.

[Questions may be mailed to the Bee Journal, or to Dr. Miller direct.]

Shady Places for Bees.

1. Can there be too shady a place for bees?
2. Is there any danger of comb becoming moldy in a hive on a stand say 6 or 8 inches up from the ground where it is so shady no grass or any other weeds will grow? E. A. W.

ANSWERS.—1. A place can be made so shady as to be dark as in a cellar, but I can hardly think any growth of trees or vines can be so dense as to make it too dark for the bees. But there may be such a dense growth on all sides that there is too little circulation of air about the hives. I once had combs melt down in hives upon which the light of the sun never directly shone. There was such a dense growth on all sides that there was very little stir of air, so the combs melted down with the heat.

2. There is no danger under ordinary circumstances. For several years I kept an out-apiary in an evergreen grove, and the dense shade allowed no grass or weeds to grow, but there was no trouble from mold or anything else. But there was full chance for the air to move under the trees. It is barely possible that some peculiar spot might be so close and damp as to favor the growth of mold.

Now the way is open if any others have more light to give on this shady question.

A Mixed-Up Colony—Holy-Lands.

1. I have a black colony, black queen and all. Now this spring some of her bees were dark black, some a little light, and others 5-banded, just like Italians. What kind of a colony would you call that?

2. In April I took from it 6 frames of bees and brood, and put it in an empty hive and set it off by itself in a corner.

In due time a queen hatched, and is now laying as good as any others, but she is just like an Italian queen, a bright leather (yellow) color almost to the tip of her tail, and all of her bees are characterized with the five bands, a bright yellow color just like some of my Italians. What is the second one—black, hybrid or Italian?

3. Why is it that the bees that work on foundation are so long and slim, while those that are on the brood are so plump and fat looking?

4. What is a "Holy-Land" bee? Can they be bought in this country? J. B. D.

ANSWERS.—1. I should be inclined to think that last year, perhaps in the fall, a young queen had been reared, and had mated with a yellow drone, thus making a hybrid colony from which you might expect to find workers of various shades.

2. Certainly it isn't black. And if all the workers are yellow it's hard to call it hybrid. It's barely possible that a young queen from some yellow colony flew into the hive and was accepted, for virgin queens have a way of going to other hives than their own.

3. I don't know. I never noticed that difference.

4. The Holy-Land bee comes from Syria, and is also called Syrian. It is doubtful if you can, at the present time, find any pure Holy-Lands in this country. Years ago they were brought into this country, but no one seems to have cared enough for them to continue them in their purity.

Late Preparation of Bees for Winter.

1. I can get a number of colonies of bees given to me by people who keep them in box-hives, about Oct. 1, 1896. If I transfer them into dovetailed hives on full sheets of foundation, and feed them sugar syrup with a Miller feeder, will they draw the cells during the months of October and November, and carry the syrup below?

2. How many pounds of syrup will each colony require to winter them?

3. I have a new stone building with 18-inch walls; inside measurements are $5\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ feet, pitch roof, under side of rafters lathed and plastered, a vent hole 4×6 inches in the east gable end; doors $2\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ feet, out and inside, facing the west, quite tight-fitting. Will this be all right to winter 30 colonies of bees in 8-frame dovetailed hives, tiered up? Would you advise the enamel cloth alone or chaff cushion?

4. Shall I use thick or thin syrup? P. O. Northampton, N. Y.

ANSWERS.—1. That depends on the weather. If it's warm enough there will be no trouble about it, but if the weather continues so cold that bees will not fly you can't get them to work out their combs. In August or September it's fun to see how nicely they'll fill and cap combs from foundation, and if you can have weather warm enough in October they may do just as well then. But you'll not always get the weather.

3. That depends somewhat on the size of the colony. Fifteen pounds of granulated sugar may take a fair colony through, but if they can be got to take 20 it will be better.

3. Such a building will do finely under ground, but above ground it will be pretty sure to prove a failure. The thick walls will help to keep a steady temperature, but it will be steadily cold, and a steady temperature of 30° is worse than to have it part of the time at 10° and part of the time at 50° . The enamel cloth alone, or a board cover alone, is all right if the bees are in a cellar that is warm enough and have abundant chance for ventilation below. But it ought to be pretty warm for enamel cloth. It's just the least bit like a metal surface, and the moisture from the bees condenses on it and drops down on the bees. For a colder place the chaff cushions would be safer.

4. For feeding in October it will be probably necessary to have the syrup thick, for if fed thin there will be too little time for the bees to thicken it. And yet it seems to work better toward working out combs if the syrup is fed thin. Very likely, too, the bees will make some change in the character

of the stores when fed thin that they cannot so well make when fed thick. I suspect that thick syrup would have less formic acid put in it than thin, and that stores made from thin syrup in hot weather would be healthier for the bees than thick syrup fed in cool weather.

On the whole, it is somewhat doubtful if you can make a great success of October-made colonies. I'll tell you what I should do if I wanted to take bees in October to prepare for winter: I'd commence to get ready for it as early as August, and I'd have the combs of sealed stores all ready to put them on in October. I'm taking it for granted that you have colonies of bees in frame hives that can be used to get ready the combs. If they are getting a flood of honey in August, well and good, let them fill up and seal combs to be ready for October. But as soon as forage becomes scarce, put on your feeders and set them to work, not on sugar syrup, but on sugar and water, and plenty of water.

You can use the crock-and-plate method that has been described more than once in these columns, but as you have Miller feeders you can use them, and except for the matter of expense I much prefer the feeders. Stuff rags in the cracks left for the passage of the syrup from one compartment to another, so that grains of sugar cannot pass through, but not so tight as to stop passage of water at least slowly. Put into the feeder the sugar, then pour water on it. It isn't so particular what proportion of water you use. Better pour on just a little at first, say a tenth as much water as sugar, and let that stand a quarter or half an hour before putting in more. If you put in a big lot of water at first, it will run through clear before it has time to dissolve the sugar, and there will be so little sweet in it that the bees will not take it. But put in a little at first and that will get the sugar partly dissolved, and then you can pour in more. If there is room for it in the feeder, you may put in as much as a pint of water for every pound of sugar, but it doesn't matter if you put in less, for you can fill in more water as fast as the bees use it out.

With combs got ready in this way you may have a good deal fairer prospect of success than to attempt to get combs built in October. Of course, you will put your bees on these combs, and you will do well to be sure to give them plenty.

Growing Too Fast—Queen-Rearing.

This is my first year in bee-keeping, and I find it easy to succeed. I have now 12 colonies, and I intend to increase to 100 for next year, partly by buying, and then go to queen-rearing. Do you think that will be going too fast?

C. B.

ANSWER.—Very decidedly I should say that as a rule no one is likely to be able to run very successfully 100 colonies in his second year. I don't say the thing can't be done. It might be, but the chances are very much the other way. Neither is any one likely to be a successful queen-breeder in his second year. At least I'd rather not buy queens from him. And there isn't such a bonanza in queen-rearing as some think. The business is probably much overdone. Taking into account the failures and perplexities connected with the business, I'd rather stick to honey-production.

A New Binder for holding a year's numbers of the American Bee Journal, we propose to mail, postpaid, to every subscriber who sends us 15 cents. It is called "The Wood Binder," is patented, and is an entirely new and very simple arrangement. Full printed directions accompany each Binder. Every reader should get it, and preserve the copies of the Bee Journal as fast as they are received. They are invaluable for reference, and at the low price of the Binder you can afford to get it yearly.

See "Bee-Keeper's Guide" offer on page 461.

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

The Honey Crop for 1896.—We called on Messrs. R. A. Burnett & Co., of this city, on July 7, and in conversation with Mr. Burnett, he had this to say about the present honey crop:

"The prospects are that the largest flow of honey ever secured east of the Rocky Mountains to the Atlantic coast will be obtained this season. Some of the harvest is now on the market, selling in a small way at the prices given in our market quotations."

This is the judgment of the oldest and most extensive honey-dealer in Chicago—a man who, though very quiet, keeps in touch with the honey-producers all over the country. He makes no great boasts as do some, but "gets there just the same," when it comes to handling honey, hence his estimate of the amount of honey in the country this year ought to be somewhat reliable.

In view of the above, producers should exercise great care not to flood any one market with honey, and thus break down prices. Neither should they neglect near-by markets and ship to a distance. This year, as in every year, the home demand should be carefully met first, and then if there still be a surplus, ship it to the nearest reliable dealer to sell, unless you are very certain a far distant dealer will net you better returns.

The North American Program.—The following has come to hand from the Secretary of the North American Bee-Keepers' Association:

STATION B, TOLEDO, Ohio, July 10, 1896.

MR. EDITOR:—The fixing of the time for the meeting of the North American Bee-Keepers' Association at Lincoln, Nebr., has been left, by the Executive Committee, with the Nebraska bee-keepers, so that they may be able to arrange for reduced railroad rates, and in a letter just received from Mr. L. D. Stilson, of York, Nebr. (Secretary of the Nebraska State Bee-Keepers' Association, who has the matter in charge), he says:

"I have been to Omaha to see the railroad people who promised to let me know July 1, but, no satisfaction yet as to rates or dates. . . . I will write you at the earliest moment, when I know the dates. They gave me dates for our Horticultural meeting more than 90 days before the meeting."

I was hoping to get the program for the meeting in all the

July bee-journals, but have waited so as to get the time set. So far as arranged for, the following can be announced:

The Past and Future of Bee-Keeping—Mrs. J. N. Heater, of Columbus, Nebr.

Bee-Keepers' Exchange—Prof. A. J. Cook, of Claremont, Calif.

The Wild Bees of Nebraska—Prof. Lawrence Bruner, of Lincoln, Nebr.

Improvements in Bee-Culture—Ernest R. Root, of Medina, Ohio.

Some of the Conditions of Nebraska—L. D. Stilson, of York, Nebr.

The Union and Amalgamation—Thomas G. Newman, of San Diego, Calif.

Economic Value of Bees and their Products—C. P. Dadant, of Hamilton, Ill.

Artificial Heat and Pure Air, Properly Applied in Wintering—R. F. Holtermann, of Brantford, Ont.

The Honey-Producer and Supply-Dealer—Rev. Emerson T. Abbott, of St. Joseph, Mo.

An original poem by Hon. Eugene Secor, of Forest City, Iowa.

Importance of Watering in the Apiary—Hon. E. Whitcomb, of Friend, Nebr.

Honey Adulteration and Commission-Men—George W. York, of Chicago, Ill.

Sweet Clover as a Honey-Producing Plant—Wm. Stolley, of Grand Island, Nebr.

The President, Mr. A. I. Root, will give an address, and it is expected that "Somnambulist" will be present with one of her inimitable papers, but as she must now be asleep, I have not been able to learn the subject of it.

It is the present intention to devote most of the second evening session to an address of welcome by the Hon. Geo. E. McLean, Chancellor of the Nebraska State University, with a response by Hon. Eugene Secor, of Iowa. The Hon. Alvin Saunders, an old-time bee-keeper and a War Governor of Nebraska, will also address the convention, and if time will allow, other addresses will be made or papers read.

A. B. MASON, Sec.

You Will Make a Mistake if you do not read all of page 463, and take a part in extending the circulation of the American Bee Journal; and also earn some of the premiums offered for getting six-months' subscribers. Then, too, you might easily get a share of the \$25 in cash that we offer. Remember, the contest ends Sept. 1, only 6 weeks yet. Many are at work, and you have an equal chance to be the lucky one. You will find that a ten-dollar bill, or a five, would come in handy. Better try for it.

Your Experience in bee-keeping is always in order in these columns. We trust none of our subscribers will wait for a personal invitation to write out and send us what they have learned in practical work with the bees. Remember that the American Bee Journal is yours for the interchange of apiarian ideas and results of actual experience. We try to give everybody a fair chance to "have their say" when it has direct application to bee-keeping. While we never lack for material for our columns, there is always room for more contributions that tend to the assistance and real advancement of practical apiculture.

Bees and Agriculture.—In The Spectator—a California periodical—was published a short time ago a story of an old man and his faithful companion who lived high up on the mountain side. Their only occupation was that of keeping bees, from the products of which they were enabled to live comfortably.

In the valley below were a number of farms and orchards. In the summer-time the bees from the mountains visited the valley and gathered large quantities of honey from the blossoms of the apple, the clover, and the corn, in turn scattering the pollen and more effectually fertilizing the flowers, enabling the farmers to gather abundant harvests. In the fall, when the bees could no longer gather nectar from the flowers,

they visited the cider-press, and often sipped the juice from the grapes that had burst from over-ripeness, or which had been punctured by other insects or the birds.

The farmers regarded the little bees as great pests, and demanded that the old man must abandon his occupation. Failing to comply with their demands, they set fire to his little apiary, and barely escaping with his life himself and companion went to dwell in another country.

The next year the crops were shorter than ever before; the clover yielded only a half crop of seed, the fruit was scrawny, and the ears of corn were not so full and plump as usual.

In the old man's deserted little garden there chanced to fall a single seed of Canada thistle. It grew and multiplied a thousand fold. The next year the increase was a thousand times a thousand. When the autumn winds blew from the northwest the thistledown was scattered broadcast over the farms in the valley, and ere the farmers were aware their land was beyond redemption.

The thistles and mortgages took the farms, and their once prosperous owners moved away.

The old man returned with his bees to his mountain home. The product of his apiary was two-fold as much as ever before. But the bees gathered not the honey from the clover and the corn, but from the thistles, and Spanish-needles, and golden-rod and blackberry vines that had taken possession of the valley farms.

There should be no conflict between bee-keepers and farmers or fruit-growers, but each should welcome the other, and thus be mutually helpful. How often has it been shown that bees are almost invaluable in the fullest pollination of the blossoms that ultimately produce fruit in abundance, and which without their aid might yield but little, if any.

PERSONAL MENTION.

MR. A. H. DUFF, of Larned, Kans., is now in charge of "The Apiary" department of the Kansas Farmer. He makes a good sub-editor.

MR. ANDREW SNYDER, of Cooper, Mich., dropped into our office for a few moments last week. He was on his way home, having spent several weeks in traveling about the country.

MR. C. S. FRENCH, of Minnesota, when renewing his subscription lately, said: "I can't afford to do without the American Bee Journal, as it is my main companion in the apiary."

EDITOR HUTCHINSON, of the Review, attended the May meeting of the Philadelphia Bee-Keepers' Association, having had a special invitation to be present and "give them a talk on honey-production and answer such questions as they might wish to ask." Mr. H. gives a lengthy account of his trip in the June Review.

MRS. EFFIE BROWN, of Eau Claire, Wis., is the much-awake editor of the bee-department in the Northwestern Agriculturist. We recently received this kind letter from her:

EAU CLAIRE, WIS., June 25, 1896.

MR. GEO. W. YORK, Dear Sir:—My last copy of the American Bee Journal has just been opened, and though it is the busiest time in the year with us bee-keepers, I feel it my duty to stop long enough right now to tell you that every copy of your paper seems to be better than the one before. I sub-

scribe regularly for 11 different papers, magazines, etc., and I don't think any one of them is so full of meat as the American Bee Journal. I am trying the work of bee-editor myself on a very small scale, and now as I look your work over I can hardly see how you manage it all so well.

We are having an exceptionally good honey season this year. I never saw more white clover or better Alsike than is found all around us. Basswood is two weeks early this year, and looks as though it would yield well. Bees are bent on swarming more or less, for with such a heavy honey-flow and hot weather, some colonies will boil out in spite of anyone's managing.

Wishing you a heavy "flow" of new subscribers, I am,
Yours respectfully, MRS. EFFIE BROWN.

Thank you, Mrs. B., for your good wishes. And success to you in all your labors.

MR. ALFRED H. NEWMAN, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, called on us July 6. He is the manager of the successful Cedar Rapids Candy Company. But most of our readers will remember him as the junior member of the firm of Thos. G. Newman & Son, publishers of the American Bee Journal for 19 years prior to June 1, 1892.

REV. EMERSON T. ABBOTT, of St. Joseph, Mo., has engaged again to go next fall on the Missouri Farmers' Institute force, to talk on "Agricultural Education in Common Schools," and on bees and poultry as opportunity offers. He fears this may prevent his being at the Lincoln convention of the North American, but we hope not. Mr. Abbott always helps to make things lively at a bee-convention, when he can be present. He must not miss that Lincoln meeting, as it is expected to be a "whopper." Those Nebraska folks are hustlers.

MR. MARTIN BROCKMAN, of 308 Abigail St., Cincinnati, Ohio, has, we are informed, been soliciting consignments of honey. Mr. Byron Walker, after he had, as he thought, taken due precaution as to his commercial standing, filled an order for him for some \$73.00 worth of honey. Mr. Brockman, acknowledging the receipt of the honey, stated that it was very satisfactory, and ordered more. Mr. Walker, again making further inquiries, decided not to make the second shipment. After writing him a number of times regarding honey already sent, and getting no response, he received notice from the commercial agencies that Mr. Brockman was irresponsible.—Gleanings.

MR. J. S. HARTZELL, of Addison, Pa., in a letter dated July 6, says these true words about bee-keepers and the literature devoted to their interests:

Persons generally keeping a few bees are not interested as they should be in bee-literature, and, in fact, farmers not one in ten take an agricultural paper, and therefore the farming is in proportion to their own knowledge of the business, and by not keeping pace with efforts made on scientific principles of our agricultural stations and of which the majority of farmers are ignorant. The same applies to our apicultural friends. Great lessons are learned in every issue of our bee-literature, as well as agricultural periodicals, and I would not undertake to do without one or two bee-papers as long as I keep in the bee-business.

A NEW YORK SUBSCRIBER (we omit his name) who was quite a good deal in arrears on his subscription, recently paid up and in advance; and when doing so he wrote:

"MR. YORK:—We think that you must be a very patient man...or you would be after some of us with a sharp stick."

We wish that all who are behind on their subscription would imagine that a "sharp stick" is coming after them, and pay up and ahead. A great many very good people become careless, or overwork their "forgettery," and consequently the publisher of their paper has to suffer. Now, friends, if you are in arrears to the Bee Journal, suppose the next time you go to the post-office, you send us a couple dollars, as did the subscriber above referred to. At the same time perhaps you can send along several 40-cent subscriptions of your bee-keeping neighbors. See offer on page 463.

AMONG THE BEE-PAPERS.

Number of Pounds in a Day.

It is impossible to give a definite answer as to how much a colony of bees weighing a given amount will bring in pounds of honey per day. There are so many conditions to be taken into account, such as the weather, the kind of bees, the strength of the colony, the source of the honey-flow, and the strength of it. A good colony, however, will gather from one to five pounds of honey per day from clover in a fair flow, and from one to 10 pounds from basswood; and strong colonies have been known to store even as much as 20 pounds in a day. But such instances are exceptional.—Gleanings.

"Some Don'ts" for Honey-Buyers.

Don't buy honey that has stood in the open air, especially in a damp climate. The cappings of comb honey are very porous and affected by all strong smelling and damp surroundings; consequently, do not use honey that is kept near tobacco, salt or smoked fish or meats, candles, etc.

Don't buy honey in which any comb is immersed, for pure extracted honey does not need comb in it to deceive the eye, for it appeals to the palate as well as the eye.

Don't use strained honey, as it is squeezed from the comb in which dead bees, larvae, pupae, the bee-moth's larvae, and even worse, are present.

Don't think that honey is expensive, as one quart of honey is equal to five or six pounds of butter in lasting and food results.

Don't forget that cheap syrups (and some expensive ones) bring you two unwelcome visitors—first the doctor, next the undertaker.

Don't buy honey without the label of some apiarist, producer, or reliable firm.

Don't stay without honey when you can get a pure, ripened and wholesome article at a fair price.

Don't leave your extracted or comb honey open; cover it.—Extract from a "Honey-Leaflet" published in the Bee-Keepers' Review.

The Elwood Method of Dequeening.

About the time when the colonies become so crowded with bees and honey that there is danger of their getting the swarming-fever, and, preferably, before that troublesome disorder has actually begun to make them dissatisfied, the apiarist hunts up the queen in each hive; he takes one or two combs, with some hatching brood, and adhering bees enough to make a small nucleus, and hangs them in a nucleus hive, which stands near the colony, and the queen is placed on these combs, to be kept in the nucleus until she is needed again. Nine days after this operation the dequeened hive is carefully gone over and every queen-cell removed from the combs. The colony is now *hopelessly queenless*—that is, there remains, at this time, only sealed brood in the hive, from which it is impossible for the bees to rear a queen. In this hopeless state the bees are left for a week or ten days, when the old queen is re-introduced into the hive.

During the nine days succeeding the

THE "NOVELTY" POCKET-KNIFE!



Your Name on the Knife.—When ordering, be sure to say just what Name and Address you wish put on the Knife.

The NOVELTY KNIFE is indeed a novelty. The novelty lies in the handle. It is made beautifully of indestructible celluloid, which is as transparent as glass. Underneath the celluloid, on one side of the handle is placed an AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL reminder, and on the other side, name and residence of the Subscriber.

The material entering into this celebrated knife is of the very best quality; the blades are handforged out of the very finest English razor-steel, and we warrant every blade. The bolsters are made of German silver, and will never rust or corrode. The rivets are hardened German silver wire; the linings are plate brass; the back springs of Sheffield spring steel, and the finish of handle as described above. It will last a lifetime, with proper usage.

Why purchase the Novelty Knife? In case a good knife is lost, the chances are, the owner will never recover it; but if the Novelty is lost, having name and address of owner, the finder will return it; otherwise to try to destroy the name and address, would destroy the knife. If traveling, and you meet with a serious accident, and are so fortunate as to have one of the Novelties, your pocket KNIFE will serve as an identifier; and in case of death, your relatives will at once be apprised of the accident.

How appropriate this knife is for a Christmas, New Year or birthday present! What more lasting memento could a mother give to a son, a wife to a husband, a sister to a brother, a lady to a gentleman, or vice versa, a son to a mother, a husband to a wife, a brother to a sister or a gentleman to a lady—the knife having the name of the recipient on one side?

The accompanying cut gives a faint idea, but cannot fully convey an exact representation of this beautiful knife, as the "Novelty" must be seen to be appreciated.

How to Get this Valuable Knife.—We send it postpaid, for \$1.00, or give it as a Premium to the one sending us three new Subscribers to the BEE JOURNAL (with \$3.00), and we will also send to each new name a copy of the Premium Edition of the book "Bees and Honey." We club the Novelty Knife with the BEE JOURNAL for one year, both for \$1.90.

Any Name and Address Put on the Knife.

GEORGE W. YORK & CO.,
CHICAGO, ILLS.

Allow about two weeks for your order to be filled.

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Has No Sag in Brood-Frames

Thin Flat-Bottom Foundation

Has No Fishbone in the Surplus Honey.

Being the cleanest is usually worked the quickest of any Foundation made

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SENECA FALLS, N. Y.

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Untested Italian Queens, 75c. 3 FOR \$2.00.

Catalogue of Apian Supplies Free.

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APIARY—Glen Cove, L. I.

That Queen-Clipping Device Free!

Works Like a Charm.

The Monette Queen-Clipping Device WORKS LIKE A CHARM. With it I have clipped 30 queens, all in one day, when examining my bees. **WM. STOLLEY, Grand Island, Nebr.**

Couldn't Do Without It.

I have clipped 19 queens, and must say the Monette Queen-Clipping Device is by far the best invention ever made, and will be welcome to many bee-keepers as it was to me. I could not do without one now.

DR. GEO. LACKE, Newburgh, Ind.

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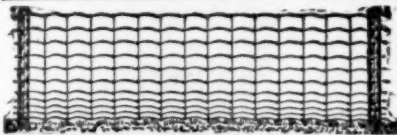
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ITALIAN QUEENS By return mail; bred from a Breeder tested by Decittie out of 1,000 Queens for his own use, and valued at \$50. Queens, 50c; 6 for \$2.75; or \$5.00 per dozen.

Leather Colored Queens from Root's best imported stock same price. Bees from my Queens are excellent workers on red clover. I guarantee safe delivery. N. B.—I sent more than 200 Queens safely to California last season.

H. G. QUINN, Bellevue, Ohio.
23A16 Mention the American Bee Journal.



Why Did They Do It?

George H. Curtis, farmer, lives 2½ miles from Adrian. Eight years ago put up Page fence along the highway. This spring he took it down and replaced it with a Page of finer mesh to match his elegant dwelling. Three times he was offered half price for the old fence, by as many different farmers, who had seen it in service all that time.

See picture in Hustler.

PAGE WOVEN WIRE FENCE CO., Adrian, Mich.

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TEXAS QUEENS.

If you are in need of Queens, let me have your order. Price-List Free.

8A26t J. D. GIVENS, Lisbon, Tex.
Mention the American Bee Journal.

READERS

Of this Journal who write to any of our advertisers, either in ordering, or asking about the Goods offered, will please state that they saw the Advertisement in this paper.

removal of the queen, and while the construction of queen-cells goes on, there is no noticeable slackening-up in the work of the bees. They seem to work on, so far as I can see, about as contentedly as if they had their queen among them. But after the destruction of the queen-cells there is a noticeable let-up in the energies of the bees. After the queen has been re-introduced into the hive, and she has been accepted, and has commenced to lay, the bees begin to work with much more energy and vim. There being plenty of empty cells in the combs, the queen can exercise her laying powers to the fullest extent, and all desire to swarm is for the time being expunged. If some honey has accumulated in the cells from which young bees have emerged, it will be removed by the workers into the sections, to give room to the queen. As the full strength of the colony, excepting the bees taken for the nucleus, has been held together, and even constantly augmented by the hatching brood, the colony is in good condition to store honey. The season of comparative sluggishness during the hopeless period is, under natural swarming, often equaled by the sulkiness of the bees, which sometimes seem to be unable to make up their mind as to whether they want to swarm or not, during which time of indisposition they do no work.—T. H. KLOER, in Gleanings.

Starters vs. Full Sheets in Sections.

A fact that is pretty well recognized among comb-honey producers may perhaps be touched upon here by way of confirmation. When we put up supers containing sections for general stock, only small starters are used, for the reason that full sheets would not ship. Well, during the last few days during the pinch we had to use something that was right ready, and accordingly a number of these supers were used; but as soon as our employees in the factory could get at it they fixed up supers containing full sheets. It was evident that the bees accepted the latter much more readily; and it was evident, also, that partly drawn-out sections shaved down a la Taylor were much more readily accepted yet. B. Taylor's idea of using natural comb shaved down by means of a comb-leveler is all right.—Gleanings.

Sweet Clover for 1896.

Although sweet clover has, in the last few years, been spreading enormously along the highways and railroad-cuts, it seems to be making unusual spread and growth this year. The majority of people consider it as a noxious weed, notwithstanding it makes a fine hay for stock, and that it seldom if ever grows on cultivated lands. Its vigorous growth and rapid spread over the country give us hope that it will largely take the place of white clover that seems to have run out for the last four or five years. This year sweet clover follows right on after basswood. Perhaps in many localities it will enable the bees to complete some otherwise unfinished sections.—Gleanings.

Please Send Us the Names of your neighbors who keep bees, and we will send them sample copies of the BEE JOURNAL. Then please call upon them and get them to subscribe with you, and secure some of the premiums we offer.

Honey-Clovers & Buckwheat SEED FOR SALE.

We have made arrangements so that we can furnish seed of several of the Clovers and Japanese Buckwheat, by freight or express, at the following prices, cash with order:

| | 5lb | 10lb | 25lb | 50lb |
|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| Alsike Clover | \$.70 | \$1.25 | \$3.00 | \$ 5.75 |
| Sweet Clover | .75 | 1.40 | 3.25 | 6.00 |
| White Clover | 1.25 | 2.00 | 4.50 | 8.00 |
| Alfalfa Clover | .65 | 1.10 | 2.70 | 5.00 |
| Crimson Clover | .55 | .90 | 2.00 | 3.50 |
| Jap. Buckwheat | .20 | .35 | .90 | 1.25 |

Prices subject to market changes.

Add 25 cents to your order, for cartage, if wanted by freight.

Your orders are solicited.

GEORGE W. YORK & CO.,
CHICAGO, ILLS.

Sweet Clover 1/2 Canada.

At the following prices:

| 5 lbs. | 10 lbs. | 25 lbs. | 50 lbs. |
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Also a quantity of Motherwort and Catnip seed. Prices on application.

EGGS for Hatching. Buff Leghorns, Indian Games, & Light Brahmas. Choice Birds. A breeder for 30 years. Prices on application

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HONEY We have a large amount of Pure No. 1 Alfalfa we will sell cheap.

Wax Wanted.

Boss bee-escape Warranted the best, simplest and quickest Escape on the market. Sent postpaid to any address for 30 cts. It can be returned at our expense if it is not as represented, or we will send the Escape on trial to any bee-keeper wishing to test it in good faith. We are agents for the Ferguson Patent Hive with double-case Gate Honey-Board, with the Escape. It is the easiest, quickest hive to handle for the production of comb honey. Address,

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355 6th East St., SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH.
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Fine Untested Queens mailed PROMPTLY at 60 cts. each, or Six for \$3.30.

Safe delivery and satisfaction guaranteed. Address.

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BEGINNERS.

Beginners should have a copy of the Amateur Bee-Keeper, a 70-page book by Prof. J. W. Rouse. Price 25 cents; if sent by mail, 28c. The little book and the Progressive Bee-Keeper (a live, progressive 28-page monthly journal) one year, 65c. Address any first-class dealer, or

LEAHY MFG. CO., Higginsville, Mo.

Full Colonies of Italian Bees for \$4.00. For particulars see larger ad. on page 350 of this paper. **Tested Queens**, a fine lot, by return mail, 50 cts. each.

Address, T. H. KLOER,
426 Willow St., TERRE HAUTE, IND.
29A4t Mention the American Bee Journal.

No. 1 Sections—Cheap.

We offer for a few weeks, a surplus stock of our one-piece **No. 1 Cream** Sections at the following very low prices:

1000 for \$1.50.

3000 for \$4.00.

5000 for \$6.00.

These Sections are finely finished and No. 1 in all respects save color, being, as their name indicates, of a cream color.

The stock consists of a quantity each of the following sizes:

4½x2, open 2 sides 4½x1 15-16, open 2 sides
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Beautiful Golden Queens From Kan.

Let me tell you why my Golden Italians are better for comb honey than the 3-banders. Simply this—they cap their honey white like the blacks, and are splendid workers.

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| 1 Untested Queen, 75 cents or 3 for \$2.00 | |
| 1 Tested Queen, \$1.00. Breeders 2.50 | |
| 1 Breeder, which I have bred from and | |
| found to be the best..... | 4.00 |
| 1 Frame Nuclei with Queen..... | 1.75 |
| 2 " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " | 2.25 |
| 3 " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " | 2.75 |

All orders filled promptly. Safe delivery guaranteed.
P. J. THOMAS,
22A8t **FREDONIA, KAN.**

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Page & Lyon Mfg. Co.,

NEW LONDON, WIS., operates two saw-mills that cut, annually, eight million feet of lumber, thus securing the best lumber at the lowest price for the manufacture of bee-keepers' supplies. They have also just completed one of

The Largest Factories,

and have the latest and most improved machinery for the manufacture of Bee-Hives, Sections, etc., that there is in the State. The material is cut from patterns, by machinery, and is absolutely accurate. For Sections, the clearest and

The Whitest Basswood

is used, and they are polished on both sides. Nearness to pine and basswood forests, and possession of mills and factory equipped with best machinery, all combine to enable this firm to furnish the best goods at

The Lowest Prices. ♡

For instance, it has a job lot of 200,000 No. 2 Sections that will be sold at 50 cts. per 1,000; or 2,000 Snow-White Sections will be sold for \$4.00, and larger quantities at still lower prices. Send for Circular and see the prices on a full line of supplies. 16Att

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History of the Adels

IN CARNIOLA there are two strains of Bees—one is gray or steel-colored, the other is yellow. The natives consider the yellow strain the best, and call them "THE ADELS." Adel means superior—and they are superior to all others. The Queens are very hardy and prolific: the Bees great workers, store and cap their honey nicely, and are sure to winter in most any climate on the summer stands. The bees are gentle and seldom sting even when no smoke is used. I have had six years' experience with them, and never have had a swarm. Can ship 200 Queens by return mail. Everything guaranteed.

Our new Catalog giving way to introduce Queens, and testimonials, ready to mail.

One Queen, \$1; 2 Queens, \$1.90; 3 Queens, \$2.50; 6 Queens, \$4.50; 12 Queens, \$8.00. Tested Queens, \$1.50.

Italian Queens same prices.

HENRY AULEY,

28A4t **WENHAM, MASS.**

Question-Box.

In the multitude of counsellors there is safety.—Prov. 11-14.

Fastening Foundation in Brood-Frames and Sections.

Query 22.—1. How do you fasten foundation to the top-bars of brood-frames?

2. How do you fasten foundation in sections?—TENN.

G. M. Doolittle—Both, with melted wax.

Prof. A. J. Cook—1. Wire frames. 2. With Parker fastener.

W. R. Graham—1. With melted wax. 2. With press and hot plate.

P. H. Elwood—1. With a Given press in wired frames. 2. With a hot plate.

E. France—1. With melted wax. 2. Press the foundation on with a machine.

Rev. M. Mahin—1. I have no approved plan. 2. I use melted rosin and beeswax.

W. G. Larrabee—1. By soldering with beeswax. 2. I use the Parker foundation fastener.

James A. Stone—1. With a press, during warm days, or in a warm room. 2. Same way.

Mrs. L. Harrison—1. Too long ago; I don't remember. 2. Dip in melted wax, kept over an oil-stove.

B. Taylor—1. A slotted top-bar and hot wax. 2. Hot beeswax, using a tin paddle of peculiar construction to handle the wax.

Emerson T. Abbott—1. By pressure. 2. With a Parker foundation fastener, if I have much to do. If not, with a screw-driver.

Dr. J. P. H. Brown—1. By pressing and waxing to the comb-guide. 2. Either by dipping edge of the foundation into a pan of wax, or by use of a comb fastener.

C. H. Dibbern—1. I use one-half wax and rosin, and run it melted on both sides, soldering the foundation firmly to the top-bar. 2. I use a foundation press.

J. M. Hambaugh—1. By the use of the Daisy roller foundation fastener. 2. By the use of a stiff knife warmed over a lamp. Two is preferable—one to be warming while the other is in use.

R. L. Taylor—1. With a teaspoon of melted wax and rosin, equal parts. 2. With a machine having a plate kept hot by means of a lamp. It is on the plan of Root's "Daisy," except the section is taken off right side up.

H. D. Cutting—1. I prefer a saw-cut in the center of the top-bar; place the foundation in the cut, and fasten with melted wax. 2. I have used for many years a machine that fastens the foundation with a hot iron, the iron heated by a lamp.

Dr. C. C. Miller—1. Push the edge of the foundation in a saw-kerf cut in the underside of the top-bar 5/32 wide and ¼ deep, then drop along the joint a few drops of melted wax from a burning candle made of scraps of foundation. 2. With the Daisy fastener.

G. W. Demaree—1. Some times I lay the frame on a rabbeted board made for the purpose, and fasten the edge of the foundation to the top-bar with melted

wax; and some times I use a putty-knife to press the wax fast, after which I run some melted wax on the opposite side of the sheet to keep it from "peeling off." 2. I use a little machine to fix the start-ers in the sections.

J. E. Pond—1. I use wired frames, and have no trouble in fastening, as the wires will hold it up, if the work is properly done. 2. By using some one of the various machines used for the purpose. As I keep only 4 or 5 colonies at a time, I have ample time in which to fasten the foundation securely.

Eugene Secor—1. It depends upon the style of top-bar. I do not use a machine. Sometimes I press it on with a knife or chisel, sometimes fasten with melted wax and brush. 2. Generally with a press; but if one has only a few colonies, it can be done very satisfactorily with melted wax and a feather.

Allen Pringle—1. I wire the frames and allow the foundation to touch the top-bar or go up into a groove. When necessary, I take some melted wax into a teaspoon (always at hand), and inclining the frame, top-bar downwards, let the melted wax run from end to end, cooling as it runs. That is quickly done, and is sure. 2. With fastener.

10 per ct. Off to Reduce Stock

on all kinds of **SUPPLIES**, except

—COMB FOUNDATION—

which will be sold in lots of 10 lbs. or more as follows: Medium, 35 cts.; Light, 36 cts.; Thin Surplus, 40 cts.; Extra Thin, 45 cts.

Queens—Warranted, 50c.; Tested, 75c.

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Warranted Queens

BY RETURN MAIL.

Either **Golden** or **Leather-Colored**, at \$5.00 per doz. Choice Tested Queens at \$1.00 each. I guarantee safe delivery.

F. A. CROWELL, Granger, Minn.
25A6t Mention the American Bee Journal.

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45 10-frame Langstroth Hives, two-story, for extracting, as made and sold by T. G. Newman. These are empty—no frames—are well painted, and have been kept in the bee-house. Price, 75 cents each.

Also, 400 Brood or Extracting Combs for the above hives; they have the triangular top-bar as made by Newman. They are clean and in good condition. Price, \$15.00 per 100.

I would take \$85.00 for the whole lot of Hives and Combs.

Reference—American Bee Journal.

W. C. LYMAN,
21A4t **DOWNER'S GROVE, ILL.**

MUTH'S HONEY EXTRACTOR

PERFECTION
Cold-Blast Smokers,

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The Bee-Keepers' Guide:

Or Manual of the Apiary,

By PROF. A. J. COOK.

This 15th and latest edition of Prof. Cook's magnificent book of 460 pages, in neat and substantial cloth binding, we propose to give away to our present subscribers, for the work of getting new subscribers for the American Bee Journal.

A description of the book here is quite unnecessary—it is simply the most complete scientific and practical bee-book published today. Fully illustrated, and all written in the most fascinating style. The author is also too well-known to the whole bee-world to require any introduction. No bee-keeper is fully equipped, or his library complete, without "THE BEE-KEEPER'S GUIDE."

Given For 2 New Subscribers.

The following offer is made to PRESENT subscribers only, and no premium is also given to the two new subscribers—simply the Bee Journal for one year:

Send us Two New Subscribers to the Bee Journal (with \$2.00), and we will mail you a copy of Prof. Cook's book FREE as a premium. Prof. Cook's book alone sent for \$1.25, or we club it with the Bee Journal for a year—both together for only \$1.75. But surely anybody can get only 2 new subscribers to the Bee Journal for a year, and thus get the book as a premium. Let everybody try for it. Will you have one?

GEORGE W. YORK & CO.,

CHICAGO, ILLS.

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A Bargain—EARLY QUEENS.

119 Colonies Italian Bees in Chaff Hives: two acres land; good house; excellent well. Early Queens—Tested, \$1.00; Untested, 50c. Sent by return mail.

E. L. CARRINGTON,

16Atf PETTUS, Bee Co., TEX.

Reference—1st National Bank of Beeville.

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PURE BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCK

Eggs, \$1.25 per 14. Our P. Rocks are very large, with fine plumage. Also,

BLACK MINORCA EGGS,

a non-sitting and great laying breed. Both kinds raised upon our farm. Minorca Cock-erels, \$1.00 each. Mrs. L. C. AXTELL,

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EQUAL TO X RAYS. Our strain of Italian red clover blossoms. Choice Untested Queens, 70c; 3 for \$2—by return mail. A full line of A. I. Root & Co.'s Goods on hand. 36-page Catalogue Free.

JNO. NEBEL & SON, High Hill, Mo.

Mention the American Bee Journal. 4A26t

Queens and Queen-Rearing.

If you want to know how to have queens fertilized in upper stories while the old queen is still laying below; how you may safely introduce any queen, at any time of the year when bees can fly; all about the different races of bees; all about shipping queens, queen-cages, candy for queen-cages, etc.; all about forming nuclei, multiplying or uniting bees, or weak colonies, etc.; or, in fact, everything about the queen-business which you may want to know—send for Doolittle's "Scientific Queen-Rearing"—a book of over 170 pages, which is as interesting as a story. Here are some good offers of this book:

Bound in cloth, postpaid, \$1.00; or clubbed with the BEE JOURNAL for one year—both for only \$1.75; or given free as a premium for sending us three new subscribers to the BEE JOURNAL for a year at \$1.00 each.

General Items.

Fine Honey Season in Canada.

This is a fine honey season. I never saw so much basswood. Every one has lots of honey, and it is extra fine.

N. H. SMITH.

Tilbury, Ont., July 7.

Basswood and Sweet Clover.

Bees are booming on basswood and sweet clover. I never saw them fuller of blossoms.

Hurrah for the "Old Reliable!"

LAWRENCE G. WARNER.

Middleburgh, N. Y., July 6.

Booming on Sweet Clover.

The bees are just booming on sweet clover. I have taken off over 100 pounds of very fine honey, and have about 500 pounds more nearly ready to take off. Swarming has been brisk for about three weeks.

G. E. NELSON.

Bishop Hill, Ill., July 3.

Bees Doing Well.

My bees are doing all that I could ask of them. There is white clover and basswood in abundance here. The basswood has just begun to bloom, and promises a splendid crop of honey. I had 21 colonies, spring, count, and have so far had 15 prime swarms.

C. S. FRENCH.

Leslie, Minn., July 6.

Great is Sweet Clover.

I have all my supers on the hives, and the way the bees are bringing in the honey makes me smile. I have taken one super off, and all the hives have two supers on, and the top ones will be ready to take off in a few days; it is all from sweet clover, and from six weeks to two months still ahead. Talk about old-time yields! If this is not one of them, I will miss my guess.

L. SYLVESTER.

Aurora, Ill., July 7.

Bees Reasoning, Etc.

I have seen several times in the Journal where some one asks if bees reason. My answer would be, that one end of them does, while at other times the other end seems very unreasonable.

I must tell a little joke on a man who is in the 60's, and has handled bees to the largest extent of any man I know of in this country. I was talking to him not long ago in regard to bees wintering and standing cold weather if kept dry. He says they cannot be frozen to death at all, and to prove it, I will tell how he knows it. He said:

"I know that my bees have staid out of their hives all winter, lots of them, and come in all right in the spring. I have moved my hives several times, in the winter, to a different place from where they were in the fall, and the first warm day that came there would come a lot of bees from the woods where they had been all winter, and fly around their old home place where it was when they left. Now, can't a child see into this, how it is?"

I said, "Mr. Ellison, do you really

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29Atf

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Doctor, 3 1/4-in. stove, by mail, \$1.50; Conqueror, 3-in., \$1.10; Large, 2 1/4-in., \$1.10; Plain, 2, 70c; Little Wonder, 2, wt 10 oz. 60c; Bingham & Hetherington Honey-Knives, 80 cents.
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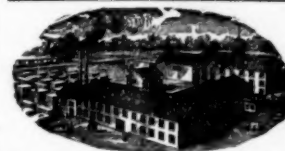
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Gray Carniolans or Golden Italians bred in separate apiaries—One Untested Queen, 65c.; six for \$3.50. Tested, \$1.25. Select Tested, \$2.25. Best Imported, \$4.00.

Never saw foul brood or bee-paralysis.

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THROAT

AND LUNG DISEASES,
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think those bees staid out all winter?" "I know they did," was his answer. He is not the man who made the drone out of the working bee by it losing its sting.

I will say right here, that with all I can say to this man, I can't get him to take the Bee Journal. Of course he don't need it! If I could coax the editor to put the word "Populist" in big letters on the back of one number, and send it to him, I believe I could fool him and get him to read one number clear through before he would find his mistake.

I was in hopes some one would answer my query in regard to about how many eggs have ever been found in a queen. When some man like Dr. Miller, Doolittle, or really any one will give me a positive answer, I will then be ready to throw my whole weight (315 pounds) at them.

A. COTTON.

Pollock, Mo.

Midst of the Second Honey-Flow.

We are now in the midst of the second honey-flow for the season from sourwood, white clover, red clover, etc. May was dry, but the excessive rains of June caused clovers and many other plants to bloom in profusion, and for a week it seems that nectar has been abundant, and may continue for some days if the weather be favorable. The prospects were never better for a flow from wild asters and other wild flowers.

W. H. PRIDGEN.

Creek, N. C., June 30.

Gloomy Outlook—Bee-Paralysis.

The bee-business has a gloomy outlook—dry year—hardly enough honey to keep the bees alive. Some of us have been so unfortunate as to import bee-paralysis through those fine golden queens from Eastern breeders. My advice to bee-keepers is, Don't buy queens unless you first have the certain knowledge that the man you buy of has not, and never has had, bee-paralysis amongst his bees. I never heard of the disease in California until those lovely yellow bees were imported.

It is not the white sage which is our most valued bee-plant, as it is not a sure thing every year. The black, or ball, sage is the best, as it yields the finest honey, and is reliable.

ELLEN C. BLAND.

Fernando, Calif., July 4.

Why Did the Bees Leave?

If Dr. Miller will not be offended at my intrusion, I will help him answer the question, "Why did the bees leave the hive?" asked on page 390, by giving my own experience in that line.

About 22 years ago, I attempted to increase my bees by stimulative feeding during the winter. I succeeded as well as I expected till toward spring, when one warm day I carried the bees out to fly, and about one-half of the colonies left their own hives and went into others. The next time I set them out they did the same thing, until I only had 4 (I think it was) out of 20.

For some time I could not tell what caused them to do so, as their hives were dry and clean, and they had plenty of honey and brood. But I at last noticed that in every case the deserted hive had no pollen, and the hives where they went

in had some. As there was no exception to this rule, I concluded that the want of pollen had caused all the mischief.

Since that time, when my bees are breeding in early spring, I am careful to see that they have plenty of pollen, or a substitute, and have had no more trouble of that kind. If others have had a different experience, with no apparent cause, I would like to hear from them.

And, Doctor, please allow me to suggest the using of horse-dung for smoker fuel. It is always easily obtained, and has no disagreeable odor like cow-dung.

Grover, Colo.

I. W. BECKWITH.

Good Crop Expected.

Bees have done fairly well here so far this season, although it has been very hot and dry for two weeks until Saturday night and Sunday about 3 inches of water fell. Some of my colonies have stored 50 pounds in boxes from clover, and they have just commenced on basswood, which is going to blossom as full as I ever saw it; so with the rain we have had, we might expect a good honey crop this year.

Some of the best bee-keepers we have in the county lost over 50 per cent. of their bees last winter, but where swarming has not been prevented, they have more than doubled. One man told me he started in with one good, strong colony, and it had swarmed five times, and that he saved them all, and had 6 colonies now.

G. W. FASSETT.

Middlebury, Vt., July 6.

List of Honey and Beeswax Dealers.

Most of whom Quote in this Journal.

Chicago, Ills.

R. A. BURNETT & Co., 163 South Water Street.

New York, N. Y.

HILDRETH BROS. & SEGELKEN,
120 & 122 West Broadway.

CHAS. ISRAEL & BROS., 486 Canal St.

Kansas City, Mo.

C. C. CLEMOMS & Co., 423 Walnut St.

Buffalo, N. Y.

BATTERSON & Co., 167 & 169 Scott St.

Hamilton, Ills.

CHAS. DADANT & SON.

Philadelphia, Pa.

WM. A. SELSER, 10 Vine St.

Cincinnati, Ohio.

C. F. MUTH & SON, cor. Freeman & Central avs.

Cleveland, Ohio.

WILLIAMS BROS., 80 & 82 Broadway.

St. Louis, Mo.

WESTCOTT COM. CO., 213 Market St.

Minneapolis, Minn.

S. H. HALL & Co.

North American Bee-Keepers' Association

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HONEY and BEESWAX

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

The following rules for grading honey were adopted by the North American Bee-Keepers' Association, and, so far as possible, quotations are made according to these rules:

FANCY.—All sections to be well filled; combs straight, of even thickness, and firmly attached to all four sides; both wood and comb unsoiled by travel-stain, or otherwise; all the cells sealed except the row of cells next the wood.

No. 1.—All sections well filled, but combs uneven or crooked, detached at the bottom, or with but few cells unsealed; both wood and comb unsoiled by travel-stain or otherwise.

In addition to the honey is to be classified according to color, using the terms white, amber and dark. That is, there will be "fancy white," "No. 1 dark," etc.

Chicago, Ills., July 7.—We quote: Fancy white clover, 15c.; No. 1 white, 12@13c.; fancy amber, 10@11c.; No. 1 amber, 7@9c.; fancy dark, 9@10c.; No. 1 dark, 7c. Extracted, white, 5@7c.; amber, 5@5½c.; dark, 4½@5c. Beeswax, 25@27c.

Philadelphia, Pa., July 10.—No. 1 amber, 9-10c.; fancy dark, 8-9c.; No. 1 dark, 7-8c. Extracted, white, 8-10c.; amber, 5-5½c.; dark, 3½-4c. Beeswax, 25-26c.

Honey very dull. Beeswax in fair demand.

Buffalo, New York, July 1st.—We quote: Fancy white, 15@16c.; No. 1 white, 13@14c.; fancy dark, 8@9c.; No. 1 dark, 7@7½c. Beeswax, 25@28c. Trade very dull and honey not moving, except a few fancy lots; anything dark is hard to sell.

Cincinnati, Ohio, July 10.—No. 1 white, 13@14c.; fancy amber, 12@13c.; No. 1 amber, 10@12c. White, extracted, 5@7c.; amber, 5@6c.; dark, 3½-5c. Beeswax, 20-25c.

New York, N. Y., June 24th.—No demand for comb honey of any kind. New crop of Southern extracted is arriving freely, and sells fairly good at 50@52c per gallon for common, and 55@60c per gallon for better grades. Beeswax dull at 26@27c.

Kansas City, Mo., July 8th.—We quote: Fancy white comb, 13@14c.; No. 1 white, 12@13c.; fancy amber, 11@12c.; No. 1 amber, 10@11c.; fancy dark, 9@10c.; No. 1, 8@9c. Extracted, white, 6@6½c.; amber, 5@5½c.; dark, 4@4½c. Beeswax, 22@25c.

Cleveland, Ohio, July 9.—We quote: Fancy white, 15@16c.; No. 1 white, 14@15c.; fancy amber, 10@11c. Extracted, white, 6@6½c.; amber, 4@5c. Beeswax, 20@25c.

Our market is nearly bare of honey. We think early shipments would meet with ready sales at about quotations.

St. Louis, Mo., July 9.—We quote: Fancy white, 11½@12c.; No. 1 white, 10½@11c.; fancy amber, 10@10½c.; No. 1 amber, 9@10c.; fancy dark, 8½@9c.; No. 1 dark, 7@8c. Extracted, white, in cans, 5c.; in barrels, 4c.; amber, 3½@4c.; dark, 3@3½c. Beeswax, 25@25½c.

This week we sold 4,700 pounds of Southern extracted in barrels at 3½c. Honey is in fair demand. Very little fancy new comb coming in, and what has been offered not well cured as yet.

Minneapolis, Minn., July 9.—We quote: Fancy white, 15c.; No. 1 white, 13@14c.; fancy amber, 10@12c.; No. 1 amber, 8@10c.; fancy dark, 7@9c.; No. 1 dark, 8c. Extracted, white, 5½@6½c.; amber, 5½@5¾c.; dark, 4½@5½c. Beeswax, 26@28c.

Actual transactions both in comb and extracted very light. Minnesota and Wisconsin comb will commence arriving in moderate quantities about August, and will probably supply the market until cool weather, which usually stimulates demand. Considerable extracted is now here on the spot, sufficient to supply immediate wants.

Albany, N. Y., July 10.—Fancy white, 13-14c.; fancy dark, 8-9c.; No. 1 dark, 6-7c. Extracted, dark, 4-5c.

Stock of old comb honey is reduced to a few cases of 2-pound buckwheat and some 1-pound white California, which we expect to close out before new crop arrives on market. Conditions are favorable in this section for a good crop of white honey.

Now for a 2-Month Campaign

Please Read All of this Page.

A Few of the Good Things to Appear in the Bee Journal Yet This Year:

Fifteen Years' Experience in Bee-Keeping.

Mrs. Sallie E. Sherman, of Texas, began, in the first number for July, a full account of her 15 years of bee-keeping in Texas. An article from her will appear each week for a number of weeks. They will be of much interest to all, and especially so to Southern bee-keepers.

A Dozen Articles by "The Dadants."

Chas. Dadant & Son, of Illinois, are the leading extracted honey producers of this part of the country. One year they had 48,000 pounds. They will contribute during the next six months, at least a dozen articles, drawn from their experience of a third of a century of bee-keeping.

A Dozen Articles by Mr. Doolittle.

G. M. Doolittle is unquestionably one of the very ablest bee-keepers in this country, and his writings on practical bee-culture have made him famous. With his 27 years' experience, he is well equipped to write profitably for the beginner or even the expert bee-keeper.

A Half-Dozen Articles by Prof. Cook.

Prof. A. J. Cook, of California, author of "The Bee-Keepers' Guide," will contribute at least six good articles before Jan. 1, 1897. He is always interesting and helpful.

A Full Report of the North American Convention

will be published in this paper immediately after the annual meeting, which will be held in September or October next, at Lincoln, Nebr. The Secretary—Dr. A. B. Mason—is now at work on the program, which promises to be the best ever gotten up by the Association. Every American bee-keeper will be interested in the many valuable essays and discussions found in the proceedings of their great annual convention.

A Variety of Contributions by Many Others,

who are well qualified to teach modern bee-culture, will also appear during the next six months. All the foregoing in addition to the

Several Special or Regular Departments

will make the American Bee Journal almost priceless to the man or woman who desires to make a genuine success of bee-culture, and keep informed about the doings of the apiarian world.

Some Liberal Premiums to Regular Subscribers.

We want every regular reader of the American Bee Journal to go to work to secure new subscribers, which we will accept at

40 Cents for the Next Six Months.

Yes, sir; we will mail the American Bee Journal from July 1, 1896, to Jan. 1, 1897—26 numbers in all—to any one not now a subscriber, for just 40 cents. And to those of our present subscribers who will work to get the new names, we make these

Generous Premium Offers:

For sending us One New Six-Months' Subscription (with 40 cents), we will mail the sender his or her choice of one of the following list of pamphlets:

Foul Brood, by Dr. Howard.
Kendall's Horse-Book.
Rural Life.
Silo and Silage, by Prof. Cook.
Foul Brood, by Kohnke.

Dr. Foote's Hand-Book of Health.
Poultry for Market and Profit.
Our Poultry Doctor.
Turkeys for Market and Profit.
Capon and Caponizing.

For sending Two New Six-Months' Subscriptions (with 80 cents), your choice of one of the following:

Monette Queen-Clipping Device.
Bienen-Kultur.
Bees and Honey (paper cover).

Winter Problem, by Pierce.
Alley's 30 Years Among the Bees.
Queenie Jeanette (a Song.)

For sending Six New Six-Months' Subscriptions (with \$2.40), your choice of one of the following:

Novelty Pocket-Knife (with name). Prof. Cook's Bee-Keeper's Guide

\$25.00 Cash, in Addition to the Above.

Besides all the foregoing premiums, we will distribute, on Sept. 1, 1896, \$25.00 in cash to the nine having sent in the highest number of new 40-cent subscriptions before that date, (but only those having sent 10 or more new subscriptions can compete for the extra cash premiums) in these amounts: To the one sending the highest number, \$10.00. The 2nd highest, \$5.00; 3rd, 4th and 5th highest, \$2.00 each; and to the 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th highest, \$1.00 each.

Let Every One Begin NOW to Work.

We will be glad to mail free sample copies, upon request, either to a club-raiser, or direct to those you desire to solicit, if you will send in the names and addresses.

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Honey as Food and Medicine.—A new and revised edition of this 32-page pamphlet is now issued. It has 5 blank pages on which to write or paste recipes taken from other sources. It is just what its name indicates, and should be liberally distributed among the people everywhere to create a demand for honey. It contains a number of recipes on the use of honey as food and as medicine, besides much other interesting and valuable information. Prices, postpaid, are: Single copy, 5 cts.; 10 copies 30 cts.; 50 for \$1.00; 100 for \$1.75. Better give them a trial. Send all orders to the Bee Journal office.

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Five Colonies..... 25.00
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Select tested queen, previous season's rearing.. 4.00
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About a Pound of BEES in a Two-frame Nucleus,
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W. Z. HUTCHINSON, FLINT, MICH.
Mention the American Bee Journal. 29A6t

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Is still in the lead, for we use all the latest improvements, including the

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We are receiving very flattering testimonials from the leading bee-keepers all over this country, and, in fact, of the world. Here is one that has just been received from the inventor of the Cowan extractor, editor of the *BRITISH BEE JOURNAL*, and author of the *British Bee-Keeper's Guide-Book*—a work that has had an enormous sale, and which has been translated into French, German, Danish, Swedish, Russian, and Spanish. Mr. Cowan, under date of June 18, gives the new foundation this high encomium:

I have had an opportunity of trying the Weed foundation. I like it very much, and certainly think it all that it is represented.

Yours very truly,

London, Eng., June 18.

THOS. WM. COWAN.

And that is not all. We have sent several very large consignments of this new process foundation to England. The British bee-keepers demanding this article all over the British Isles, just the same as American bee-keepers are demanding the same all over the United States. Our British cousins know a good thing when they see it.

We have many other fine testimonials, but we have not room to display them here.

THE A. I. ROOT COMPANY,
MEDINA, OHIO.